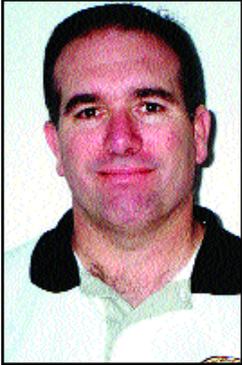


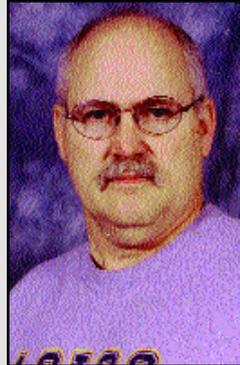


# 2001 State Man-of-the-Year Award



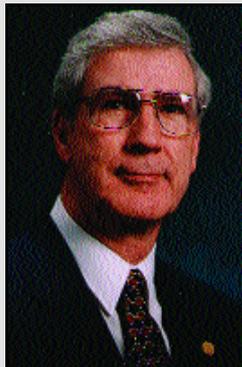
**Alfred Fontes**  
Brentwood, California

Teacher/Coach - California editor of *Wrestling USA Magazine*. Co-Editor of Wrestling Report web page and Coach Al's California Wrestling Web Page. Al has kept all the wrestling coaches, participants and fans aware of current wrestling activities plus maintaining a weekly state ranking of California high school wrestlers.



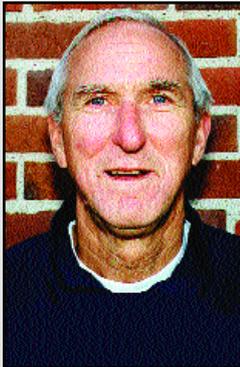
**Phil Bode**  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Electrician - Phil is a native of Iowa where he wrestled in high school. He was recruited by Coach Dale Ketelsen for LSU where he wrestled and garnered two sectional titles and served as team captain. Phil started the wrestling program at Redemptorist and Brusly High Schools, they have won 8 team state championships between them. Phil jumpstarted the Zachary program in '95 and began a program at St. Amant.



**Rex Jones**  
Lincoln, Nebraska

Associate Director, Nebraska School Activities Association - Rex is completing 26 years on the NSAA staff, the last 25 of which he has been responsible for wrestling rules interpretation as well as directing the state meet. He spent 12 years on the National Federation Wrestling Rules Committee, 8 as chairman. He will long be remembered as the man responsible for NE "Parade of Champions".



**Jare Klein**  
Olivet, Michigan

Coach - Jare completed his 33rd year as head wrestling coach at Olivet College. Career dual meet record of 569-116. He has coached 15 All-Americans and 43 of his student athletes have been named Scholar All-Americans. Jare was inducted into the NCAA Division III Hall of Fame in 1992 and the Michigan Hall of Fame in 1997. His hard work and dedication have contributed significantly to the success of wrestling in the state of Michigan.



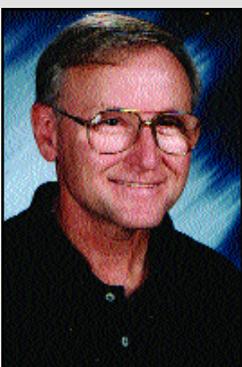
**Jim Jackson**  
Apple Valley, Minnesota

Teacher/Coach - Jim led Apple Valley to its third straight state title, and fourth in the past five years. Jim has a career record of 187-9-3 and was instrumental in bringing the Wrestling USA Dream Team Classic to Minnesota in 2000.



**Bill Welker**  
West Virginia

Assist. Executive Secretary WVSSAC - Bill has been awarded the "West Virginia State Man of the Year Award". He was the state rules interpreter and clinician from 1989-2000, and has done an outstanding job. He has authored and published instructional programs for wrestling officials; promoted wrestling thru countless writings. His devotion to the sport has gone far beyond his call of duty in West Virginia.



**Dean Short**  
Kingston, New York

Teacher/Coach - Dean has been involved in Kingston wrestling since 1969. He served as assistant coach and head coach. Dean has coached 15 sectional champions and has won two team titles in Section One in 1977 and '78. He took the struggling Mid Hudson Wrestling Tournament in 1985 and turned the tourney into one of the most competitive in New York. This past season the tournament attracted 23 teams and is highly regarded throughout the entire wrestling community. Dean is retiring after 27 years.



**Eric Turner**  
Littleton, Massachusetts

Mathematic Teacher - Men, such as Eric, laid the foundation for the tremendous growth of interscholastic wrestling in Massachusetts. For over three decades Eric tirelessly worked as a coach, official and clerk. His leadership has been an integral part of the Massachusetts Interscholastic Wrestling Officials Association since 1973.



**Mike Clair  
Manheim, Pennsylvania**

Mike has been involved with wrestling since the mid '60's. He has assisted with various district, regional, and state tournaments for many years and has served in a volunteer capacity for Franklin and Marshall College, Manheim Central High School and the National Wrestling Hall of Fame, PA Chapter. He is now the Executive Director, responsible for the mission of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in every state.



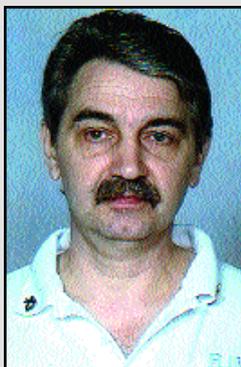
**Steve Meehan  
Oakdale, New York**

Computer Consultant - Steve is the editor of New York's premier wrestling website, nywrestling.com. He is also a past NY-USA Wrestling Chairman, former NYUSAWrestling membership director for 5 years and local NY-USA Wrestling Chairman and Kids Director. He has been a freestyle pairing official for 15 years and has run numerous tournaments including the last NY State Empire State Games.



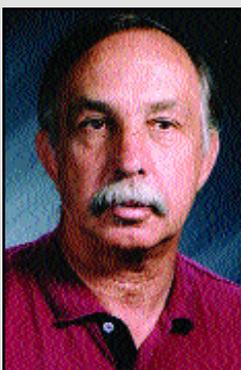
**Walt Allison  
Oldsmar, Florida**

Retired Educator - Walt has been involved in Florida wrestling since 1967. He started Junior High wrestling in Miami, coached South Miami Sr. High School, and for many years he has been coordinator of officials at the state wrestling championships. Walt has been very helpful in the growth of Florida wrestling.



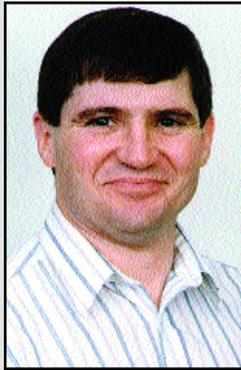
**Paul DeFosse  
W. Warwick, Rhode Island**

Paul has been a State Pairing Official and Director for many years. He works state, regional and national events. He is very involved with a new girl's program in the state and is a tireless and dedicated volunteer.



**Dennis Gurecki  
Chandler, Arizona**

Teacher/Coach - Dennis has worked with young people at Chandler High School for 27 years and head coach since 1992, where his teams have produced 61 state placers, and seven top ten team performances at the 5A level. He has been involved in freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling since 1983, he has been state chairman for referees and cultural exchange leader. Since 1994 he has been the AZ/USAWrestling State Chairman.



**Mike Juby  
Buhler, Kansas**

Kansas State Chairperson - Mike helped put together our Southern Plains camps, Freestyle/Greco State, Kids State, Kids Folkstyle Nationals, Cadet/Junior Duals, and national teams. Although he does not coach all these events, he is a major supporter and organizer of many wrestling events. Mike is a huge player in Kansas wrestling and it is time he was recognized and rewarded for his efforts.



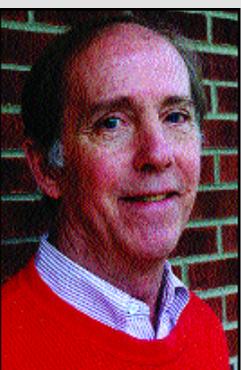
**Ron McCunn  
St. Paris, Ohio**

Teacher/Coach - Ron's teams have won three Ohio State Championships. He has coached two, four-time state champions and a total of 17 state champions, as well as 18 state placers. In 1992 he was inducted into the Ohio Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame and selected Division II coach of the year in 1998. In his 22 years as head coach, his teams have won 11 sectional and district championships and fourteen league or conference championships.



**Bob Berg  
Atlanta, Georgia**

Attorney - Very few men have the affect on Georgia High School wrestling that Bob has. He is known as the Guru of wrestling because of the countless hours he spends compiling information on wrestlers in the 5A division. He posts his predictions on the web, with humor and has an amazing accuracy rate. We here in Georgia are proud to call Bob our own and want to thank him for the countless hours he puts in. He is always available to help to make Georgia wrestling more fun and interesting.



**Schaack VanDeusan  
Chattanooga, Tennessee**

Teacher/Coach - Schaack has demonstrated outstanding skills in coaching and in leadership. He has been instrumental as a head coach and currently as an assistant coach in leading teams to a combined 430-116-5 record. He has coached 48 individual state champions, two of which were father and son. Also of significance, Schaack has coached nine state championship teams in five different decades from the 1960s to 2000s.



**Shawn Guest  
West Gardner, Maine**

Special Education/Coach - As a competitor over the last 20 years, Shawn has developed some life long philosophies that he abides by today, passion, guts, a no quit attitude and perseverance. He has distinguished himself as an important figure in the state in achieving equal rights for wrestling. He has been successful in reorganizing the state wrestling coaches association and currently serves as its president. This has opened up communication with the Maine Principals' Association.